

1 **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

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3 Please replace the abstract of the disclosure with as follows:

4 The invention is related to an electric field proximity detection system suitable for use as  
5 a touch sensitive keyboard or to be used in close proximity without direct contact. In an  
6 embodiment of a circuit useful in the system, an AC signal is coupled to a single  
7 electrode functioning as an antenna radiating an electric field through a high impedance  
8 circuit. A conductive object in close proximity disturbs the field causing a voltage change  
9 across nodes of the high impedance circuit that is compared by a detector circuit that  
10 generates a DC output indicating an object is close to the electrode. In another  
11 embodiment, the circuit couples to an analog multiplexer to control a plurality of  
12 electrodes. In another embodiment, a row and column address scheme ~~coupling~~  
13 couples a plurality of electrodes and increases resolution without substantially  
14 increasing complexity. The circuits may be integrated in a semiconductor to reduce size  
15 and cost. The electric field proximity detection system extends to applications related to  
16 object detection such as remote sensing, motion detection and remote controls.